

# Washington Ball Players Are Threatened With Ptomaine Poisoning at Atlanta

## PTOMAINE TRIES TO SIGN WHOLE CAMP

Vile Water Used for Three Weeks Before Discovery at Atlanta.

## MANAGER McALEER CUTS OFF SUPPLY

In Spite of Cool Air and Haze Nationals Have Inspiring Workout Today.

By "SENATOR."

ATLANTA, Ga., March 25.—Ptomaine poisoning threatens the entire camp of the Nationals. Following the complaints of a few of the men, Manager McAleer and Prof. Joe Quirk, the trainer, investigated the source of the water supply at Ponce de Leon Park. Both were amazed to find that it was being taken from a spring nearby which was close to a creek into which the vilest of refuse was being dumped by city wagons.

For more than two weeks the Nationals had been drinking this water, brought to the park each morning, and many complaints of pains for which no explanation could be given. Today bottles of lithia water were ordered by Manager McAleer, who is keeping the strictest watch upon some of the lads whose pains were the greatest. At the first sign of any turn for the worse they will be shut out of the doctor.

Glad All Are Not Ill.

"No wonder some of the players don't feel like working," says Manager McAleer. "Here for almost three weeks we've been drinking that confounded water. It's a wonder we're not all down sick, real sick, too. Why that refuse creek is right up close to the spring where the water was being obtained for us. One look was enough for me. Old Ptomaine ought to have all of us stretched out gasping for now."

Today was hazy and quite cool, but the Nationals' workout was fast and inspiring. All the boys were glad to get into another practice game after two days of running around aimlessly.

In the afternoon many of them went out to the park to see Bill Dahlsen's Brooklyn team at Atlanta.

Corbin Sized Up.

If Fred Corbin continues to show big league class he will remain with the Nationals. Otherwise, he is likely to find himself given to the Atlanta club in the "Ground Rent" man. However, Jimmy McAleer today thinks well enough of the Akron lad to want to keep him.

Finding Corbin nearly out of his reach Otto Jordan, manager of the Atlanta team, has asked for "Sambo" Ralston, the big outfielder, obtained from the Akron Club during last season. In return for Ralston, McAleer wants first chance to get Sykes, the husky, slugging first sacker, with the local club. This does not suit Jordan, and the matter is hanging fire until some compromise appears.

McAleer and Jordan conferred yesterday, and the matter was thoroughly discussed. The Nationals' leader likes the look of Sykes, who, though not rather rusty, shows signs of being a hard hitter. A year's experience in the Southern League may make him worthy of a chance with the big show, and McAleer wants him if he shows any improvement. Sykes is a big fellow and very rangy. Just now he has not been working long enough to get the stiffness out of his muscles, but still he looks pretty good. At the bat he swings most, standing up close to the plate and getting a healthy swing at

"Wid" Conroy has played right field, second, short, and third in practice. "Jim couldn't get along without me," says he. "I'm the best utility man in the business. Just watch me, m'boy."

Although "Baby" Bunting does not seem to swing very hard at the bat, he has little difficulty in driving it to the far corners of the pasture. The lad is improving every day.

"Chief" Swain is making a hit with coaching. He has foggy baso profundo which can be heard half a mile. Germany Schaefer hasn't much on Swain when it comes to making everybody laugh, either.

"Sambo" Ralston is hitting in hard luck, and it seems to be worrying him. He stands right up to the pan, but the ball generally goes straight where some fielder is waiting.

Doc Gessler is becoming a regular cog, not that he's always butting in, but because he's learning to knock him down with line drives when he is in close for bunts. "You can't do it, that's all," says the kid. And they are beginning to believe him, too.

George McBride, the rascally captain and shortstop of the Nationals, is covering many acres of territory in the field, and is finding the pill with surprising skill. If he can continue his performances when the season commences, Washington stands an excellent chance of having the leading shortstop of the American League.

Zeb Milan is in excellent condition, and none of the funny hitters can send the ball out too far for him. Jimmy McAleer has to caution the Tennessee lad from overdoing it, for he delights in staying out in the field longer than any else.

## Some of the Men Connie Mack Expects to Use in Winning Another World's Championship

COOMBS.

EARL MACK WITH HIS FATHER, CONNIE.

BARRY.



MURPHY.

## BOB THAYER'S Sporting Gossip

"Every Knock Is a Boost."

Play Ball!

With all three collegiate and most of the scholastic teams in action the baseball season in Washington gets under way this afternoon.

Starting out under the most auspicious circumstances, and getting an earlier start than in several years, the different squads have been held back during the last two weeks by unsatisfactory weather.

However, all are in fairly good condition, and some real baseball should be seen in most of the contests. Of course, most interest will center in the contest at Georgetown field. The Bankers will present a pretty stiff front against the University, and it will be possible to get some estimate on the probable strength of the team that represents the Blue and Gray against the strongest teams of the East in the real campaign which practically opens Easter week.

Amateurs interested.

That meeting of the Amateur Baseball Commission of the District at Spaulding's this evening promises to be one of the most interesting since the formation of the organization which controls the situation in Washington.

After weeks of considering every feature of the constitution the committee on revision met two nights ago and adopted certain recommendations which will be made to the governing body tonight.

It was agreed by the committee that nothing would be given out, so the first official announcement will come when the report of that committee is made.

It is understood that several radical alterations will be suggested, and there should be some interesting debate before the vote is taken.

Marathoner start.

I noticed on the Speedway a squad of five long-distance runners in training yesterday afternoon.

Although most athletes like to wait until the weather is warmer, those yesterday appeared to enjoy the snappy conditions, and were going along at a fairly good clip, considering the early stage of the season.

That announcement in The Times the other afternoon that the course of the Inter-city Marathon from Laurel to Washington is being improved stimulated interest, and unless I miss my guess a record-breaking field of entrants will answer the clerk's call at the "Midway City" in May.

The exact date will be announced shortly, and this will be the signal for all the Marathoners in Washington to get down to real work. Considering the fact that both of the past inter-city affairs were won by men from this city, it is now up to the Capital athletes to see that this prestige is not lost to Baltimore this season.

Go back fast.

It seems but a short time ago when "Buck" Freeman, the old Washington player, was hammering out home runs for the Boston club. Still, the best former star could obtain for the coming season is a managerial job in the Susquehanna League.

In the days of the National League here Freeman made his reputation as a home-run slugger by poling the ball into the right field bleachers in old National Park on an average of about every other day. Later, however, the pitchers found "Buck's" weak spot, and from then on he lost his cunning as a four-spotter.



McINNIS.



THOMAS.

## GREEN EYES SEE SLAB KING WORK

McAleer Gives Boston National Scout, Billy Hamilton, a Look at Johnson at Play With the Sphere During Practice at Ponce de Leon Park, and Smiles.

By "SENATOR."

ATLANTA, March 25.—It was while Billy Hamilton, the former king of base-runners and now scout for the Boston Nationals, was watching the Nationals working out at Ponce de Leon Park that Jimmy McAleer said to him: "Watch the next pitcher, Bill. If you like the looks of him, perhaps I can fix up a deal with you for him. He's a right-hander, and the Boston club might be able to use him. I'm not stuck on his movements, myself. He seems all tied up."

Dixie Walker was working at the time, and Hamilton waited till he left the box. Then in came the strike-out king of the American League for his turn on the slab.

"That's the fellow," drawled McAleer. Hamilton didn't say anything, but he looked several things.

Had Just Quit.

The Chicago Cubs believe there is no baseball team quite as good as the Chicago Cubs. The Nationals had just finished their practice and returned to the hotel, to find the lobby filled with members of the National League champion team. There were handshakes all around, and Zeb Milan was introduced to several of Chance's outfit.

"Come on out to the park this afternoon," said a Chicago newspaperman to Milan, "and see a good team play."

"We've just quit," was the quick response from the little outfielder.

May Equal Bergen.

"I've seen that boy Ainsmith play a lot of games in the New England League," says Billy Hamilton, "and I'm strong for him. He has a wonderful arm, and a wise head on his young shoulders. If he continues to improve in the next two or three years as he has in the last, he's going to come close to being the best catcher in the big leagues."

"That boy is a marvelous pecker-to-bases, and reminds me very much of Martin Bergen. He has the same style of throwing. Some day, if he takes care of himself, he should be the equal of Bergen behind the bat, and that's the highest praise for a backstop."

All Bone.

"Confound that Bussey," complained Gabby Street, returning to the bench after taking his turn at the bat, "he hit me with a fast one right on the bone of my arm."

"No matter where he'd hit you," remarked Jack Lelivelt, "he'd hit bone."

Depth of Love.

Prof. Joe Quirk, the universal "fixer" for the Nationals when any of them want to attend some show, was being coaxed by "Wid" Conroy to take him to see Sarah Bernhardt, and Prof. Joe was enjoying "Connie's" harangue, too. Finally, Conroy leaned over and said: "Come on, Joe, come on with me, m'boy. I know you've fixed it up with the doorkeeper, but I won't enjoy all that French stuff unless I have you alongside of me to explain it to me. Joe, m'boy, I love you just like a farmer loves good roads."

And Joe went with him.

He Slugged McAleer.

The arrival of Billy Hamilton, once the baserunning marvel of baseball, at the hotel, started a fine old fanning bee, and Jimmy McAleer and he talked a couple of hours about those old days when they fought each other. The talk swung around to the Cleveland club, of which McAleer was a member, and Hamilton said:

"Chippy McGarr had a bad reputation, but he never bothered me except once. We were playing Boston, and when I started for third McGarr gave me the leg or the shoulder, or something like that, and I ended by standing

## TURF MEN SEE HOPE FOR RACING GAME

Felt at Benning That Drastic New York Law Will Be Repealed.

## JOCKEY CLUB'S ACTION HAD CHILLING EFFECT

Decision Against Asking for Dates Led Some to Give Up in Despair.

The decision of the Jockey Club that no application for dates will be made by the racing associations of New York this year, came as a shock to the horsemen at Benning.

Some of the horsemen were ready to sell out at once, and others began to figure on a change of plans for the season. But later, when the turfmen recovered, there was a change of heart. The horseman is nothing if not optimistic, and today there were expressions to be heard everywhere that there may be racing, after all, in New York.

The oldest of the horsemen, who have gone through many previous fights against the game, assured their younger brethren that in 1911 racing looked to be gone forever, but that notwithstanding the efforts of the reformers, the "sport of kings" continued to live.

Want Law Repealed.

The recent war on the racing game, led by former Governor Hughes, is admitted by the most optimistic, was the most persistently waged of any attack ever made on the sport, but there is an abiding faith that the Legislature in session in New York will listen to the appeals of the thousands of persons injured by a cessation of racing, and repeal the drastic laws that make the directors of racing liable for violations of the law on their property, whether they have knowledge of it or not.

Many horsemen see in the action of the Jockey Club a good political move to hasten the repeal of the New York legislation. They contend that members of that body cannot refuse to relieve a situation that means the loss of millions of dollars and throws out of employment thousands of men.

There is no doubt, horsemen say, that if the objectionable law that makes officers of racing associations liable is wiped out the statute books the associations will have met their end. The end is pointed out that if this law is enforced against State fairs, as it must be if it remains a law, a howl will arise from the farmers throughout the State.

Farmers Favorable.

That the farmers of New York State are not unfavorable to racing horsemen is indicated by the defeat of Agnew, author of the bill which stopped the sport last September. As soon as the New York legislature settles the Senatorial tangle they believe that body will be ready to give relief to racing.

So confident in fact are the horsemen at Benning—and they represent the sentiment of turfmen everywhere—that the sport cannot be killed that there has not been an effort made by any of them to dispose of their racers or to make plans for racing beyond the present meeting. They believe that before the Maryland season comes to an end the New York legislature will repeal the directors' liability law and that the racing associations will announce plans for the summer.

At first some of the trainers who have their horses at Benning concluded to change their plans and take in the Jamestown meeting, but they have decided to wait for "final" trial operations have not been suspended, and the track was as lively this morning as it has been in the last two weeks.

Fights Ten Rounds With Injured Hand

CLEVELAND, March 25.—Johnny Kilbane, the Cleveland featherweight, in his bout last night with Monte Zell, injured his right hand in the first round. He was able, however, to go the full ten rounds to a draw.

Dyson and Dunn Close.

NEW YORK, March 25.—Eight fans disagree as to which of the two round here last night, Young Dyson, the Pawtucket bantam, and Jimmy Dunn, here last night. The experts, however, declare Dunn had a slight advantage.

## S.S.S. REMOVES THE CAUSE AND CURES CATARRH

Catarrh usually begins with irritated, inflamed membranes of the head, nose and throat, from which there is a constant and copious discharge of watery matter. This comes from inflammation of these mucous surfaces and is caused by catarrhal matters and impurities in the circulation. Nature intends that these membranes shall be nourished by the blood, but waste matters and impurities deposited into these delicate parts, sets up inflammation and the discharge is a natural result. When this secretion begins to dry it becomes thick and sticky, adhering to the back portion of the mouth and throat, causing the "hawking" and straining so troublesome to Catarrh sufferers. Other ordinary symptoms are caused from congestion of the circulation by the catarrhal impurities.

There is only one way to cure Catarrh, and that is to remove the cause by purifying the blood. Washes, sprays, inhalations, etc., do not reach the circulation, and therefore can only afford temporary relief. S.S.S. cures Catarrh by cleansing the blood of all impure catarrhal matter, and at the same time building up the system by its unequalled tonic effects. In other words S.S.S. cures Catarrh by purifying the blood so that the mucous surfaces and linings of the body are supplied with healthy nourishment instead of being continually irritated from the catarrhal impurities. Then the inflamed membranes heal, the discharge is checked, head noises cease, and the stomach is toned up. Book on Catarrh and any medical advice free. S.S.S. is for sale at drug stores.

I suffered for a long time with a bad case of Catarrh. I had a continual headache, my cheeks grew purple, my nose was always stopped up, my breath had a sickening and disgusting odor and I coughed incessantly. I heard of your S.S.S. and commenced to use it, and after taking several bottles I was cured and have never since had the slightest symptom of the disease.

MRS. MARY L. WESSERMAN.  
4449 Vista Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

I had all the symptoms that accompany Catarrh, such as mucus dropping in the throat, a constant desire to hawk and spit, feeling of dryness in the throat, cough and spitting up on arising in the morning, etc. I had suffered for five years. I commenced to take S.S.S., and after I had taken three large bottles, I noticed a change for the better, thus encouraged, I continued to take it, and in a short while was entirely cured.

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